

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<p>Applicant(s): Abdelrahman</p> <p>Serial No.: UNKNOWN</p> <p>Filed: 12/3/2003</p> <p>Title: A Low Cost Versatile Message Board with Advertising Space</p> <p>Attorney Docket No.: 3041-101</p>	<p>Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN</p> <p>Examiner: UNKNOWN</p>
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
- ☐ Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
 - ☐ a \$240.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
- (After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
- ☐ Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
 - ☐ a petition under 37 CFR 1.97(d)(2)(ii), and
 - ☐ a \$130.00 petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1).
- (Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of foreign patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware.

Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: December 3, 2003

Typed Name: Jessica Costa

Signature: Jessica Costa

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Date: December 3, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. UNKNOWN

GROUP ART UNIT: UNKNOWN

ORIGINALLY FILED:

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR:
A METHOD FOR MANAGING A
LOW COST VERSATILE MESSAGE
BOARD WITH ADVERTISING
SPACE

DOCKET NUMBER: 3041-101

INVENTORS: Abdelrahman

SUPPLEMENT TO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please consider the remarks as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application and are directed to a message board for persistently displaying a selected set of messages and optionally one or more advertisements. The message board of the invention includes a plurality of surfaces connected in a stack such that one or more subsets of the surfaces are concentric and rotatable with respect to other of said surfaces around one or more axes; a plurality of messages to be made available for persistent display that are distributed on a subset of said surfaces; one or more windows distributed over a subset of said surfaces and respectively configured to persistently display a respective subset of messages from one or more of said surfaces that are positioned lower in said stack, said respective subset of messages may be changed to a different subset of messages for persistent display by rotating said respective surfaces containing said one or more windows around one or more of

said one or more axes with respect to said surfaces that are positioned lower in said stack.

1. U.S. Patent 6,467,809 to Scheinblum

U.S. Patent 6,467,809 to Scheinblum teaches a greeting card with a rotating window for calculating and displaying an individual's conception date based on input of the individual's birthday. The Applicant's invention is distinguishable from Scheinblum for several reasons.

First, Applicant's invention is a message board for persistently displaying messages. In contrast, Scheinblum is a greeting card intended for sending a personalized message to a party for reading and then disposing. A greeting card is designed to convey only one message during its lifetime, and by virtue of its personal nature, it is meant only for the intended recipient of the card and not for persistent display in a fixed prominent location. The intent of a greeting card is typically one (or a small few) viewings by a small personal audience. The lifetime of the greeting card ends once the message contained therein is received. Once the greeting card has been sent to one party, it is not reused and sent to another party.

In contrast, the intent of a message board is to variably display messages to an intended audience over and over again with the understanding by the intended audience that the messages displayed on the message board may change from time to time. The fact that the message may change is one of the factors that draws the intended audience to pay attention to the message board. The lifetime of a message board is therefore significantly longer than that of a greeting card, and may be reused time and again.

Second, Scheinblum is used to perform a calculation and display the results of the calculation. More particularly, Schienblum requires a single input (i.e., the individual's birthday) and generates a single output (i.e., the individual's conception date) based on the input birthday. The user selects the input but cannot choose the output.

In contrast, Applicant's message board does not perform a calculation; rather, the leaver of the message is given a choice of messages to select for

display from a plurality of different messages. The whole purpose of Applicant's message board is to allow the user to choose the output message to be displayed. Scheinblum's greeting card does not allow the user to choose the output - rather in Scheinblum the output is dependent on the input birthday. Since there can be only one birthday for any given individual, the output (i.e., the calculated conception date) is fixed with respect to any given individual.

For the above reasons, Scheinblum neither anticipates Applicant's claimed invention nor renders it obvious.

2. Prenate GT™ Delivery Date Calculator

First Horizon Pharmaceutical™ Corporation produces a delivery date calculator for calculating a probable date of delivery given a the first day of a woman's last menstrual cycle. The delivery date calculator is distributed to obstetrical practitioners for use in determining the probable due date for a pregnant woman. The delivery date calculator comprises an outer wheel on which a line for every day of the year is printed. Each line is equidistant from its adjacent lines. The delivery date calculator comprises a second inner wheel rotatably attached to the first wheel at a center axis. The second inner wheel includes a first arrow indicating the first day of the woman's last menstrual cycle and a second arrow indicating the probable date of delivery. These arrows are permanently separated 40-weeks apart according to the days-of-the-year scale printed on the outer wheel. To operate the delivery date calculator, one or the other of the inner and outer wheel is rotated about the center axis to align the first arrow indicating the first day of the woman's last menstrual cycle with the date on the outer wheel corresponding to the woman's last menstrual cycle. The second arrow then points to a date on the outer wheel that corresponds with the woman's probable delivery date.

The delivery date calculator also includes an advertisement for a specific brand of prenatal vitamins printed on the exposed surface of the inner wheel. An advertisement also is printed on the back of the outer wheel.

The Applicant's invention is distinguishable from the delivery date calculator for several reasons.

First, Applicant's invention is a message board for persistently displaying messages. In contrast, the delivery date calculator is a portable tool intended for use in determining a probable delivery date of a pregnant woman. Nothing about the delivery date calculator is similar to a message board posted for persistent display in a fixed prominent location. First, the delivery date calculator does not include any attachment or posting means for posting it in a fixed prominent location. Second, the size of printing on the delivery date calculator requires one to be in very close proximity in order to even read and interpret the information. The diameter of the outer wheel is only 5 inches and the distance between day marks on the outer wheel is only a millimeter. One could not possibly read the information on the delivery date calculator without being within about an arm's length away from it.

Second, the information calculated by the delivery date calculator is typically imparted only to the user of the tool. The intent of the delivery date calculator is to allow an obstetrical practitioner to calculate the delivery date of a given pregnant patient. The patient typically does not even get to view the delivery date calculator to see the information imparted therefrom, since typically the practitioner uses the tool as they are recording information into the patient's chart. Typically the patient's delivery date is simply announced orally to the patient. Thus, because the information produced by the delivery date calculator is typically imparted visually only to the user of the tool and rarely to even those (e.g., the patient) who the information applies to, the delivery date calculator can hardly be equated with a message board whose purpose is to impart messages from one party to another party.

In addition, the purpose of the delivery date calculator is to perform a calculation and display the results of the calculation. More particularly, the delivery date calculator requires a single input (i.e., the first day of the patient's last menstrual cycle) and generates a single output (i.e., delivery date) based on the input conception date. The user selects the input but cannot choose the output.

In contrast, as previously stated, Applicant's message board does not

perform a calculation; rather, the leaver of the message is given a choice of messages to select for display from a plurality of different messages. The whole purpose of Applicant's message board is to allow the user to choose the output message to be displayed. the delivery date calculator does not allow the user to choose the output - rather, the output is dependent on the input date. Thus, the output (i.e., the calculated delivery date) is fixed with respect to any given patient.

For the above reasons, the delivery date calculator neither anticipates Applicant's claimed invention nor renders it obvious.

Respectfully submitted,

December 3, 2003

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Costa".

Jessica Costa, Reg. No. 41,065

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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
		Application Number			
		Filing Date			
		First Named Inventor		Abdelrahman	
		Group Art Unit		UNKNOWN	
		Examiner Name		UNKNOWN	
		Attorney Docket Number		3041-101	
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6,467,809		Scheinblum	10-22-2002	see attached comments
		5,352,535		Su	10-04-1994	
		4,738,043		Ernst	04-19-1988	
		4,171,584		Kaiser	10-23-1979	
		4,129,857		Espinosa	12-12-1978	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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